

1 CLAIMS

2 I claim:

- 3 1. A system for drafting a patent application and assessing technological information
4 comprising:
5 at least one input device connected to at least one computer and at least one
6 output device, wherein at least one user is capable of inputting information via the
7 at least one input device to the at least one computer and viewing information on
8 the at least one output device, and wherein the at least one computer is capable of
9 storing, modifying, outputting, and retrieving information in communication with
10 the at least one input device and at least one output device; and
11 software installed and capable of running on the at least one computer for
12 automatically generating a hierarchical component categorization based upon the
13 user inputted information and outputting a viewable diagram of that
14 categorization and for automatically generating a document for filing as a patent
15 application, including specification and claims, based upon the user inputted
16 information and additional text-based detailed information that is organized
17 consistent with the diagram; wherein the hierarchical component categorization
18 includes at least one key component and at least one subcomponent related
19 thereto.
- 20 2. The system according to claim 1, wherein the diagram is modifiable by the at
21 least one user and the diagram hierarchical component categorization and related
22 text-based detailed information is automatically updated based upon the user
23 modifications.

- 1 3. The system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one key component includes
- 2 a multiplicity of components.
- 3 4. The system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one subcomponent further
- 4 includes at least one sub-subcomponent.
- 5 5. The system according to claim 1, wherein the relational connection between
- 6 components establishes the claims structure of the patent application.
- 7 6. The system according to claim 1, wherein the text-based information and the
- 8 diagram components are automatically linked.
- 9 7. The system according to claim 6, wherein the link(s) are hyperlinks.
- 10 8. The system according to claim 1, wherein the document and diagram are capable
- 11 of being output into another software program.
- 12 9. The system according to claim 1, wherein the document and diagram are
- 13 exportable in HTML format.
- 14 10. The system according to claim 1, wherein the document and diagram are
- 15 exportable in XML format.
- 16 11. A method for drafting a patent application comprising the steps of:
- 17 at least one user entering information relating to components of a
- 18 patentable invention;
- 19 a system automatically generating a visual diagram of the components of
- 20 the invention in a hierarchical relational diagram, wherein the system includes at
- 21 least one input device connected to at least one computer and at least one output
- 22 device, wherein at least one user is capable of inputting information via the at
- 23 least one input device to the at least one computer and viewing information on the

1 at least one output device, and wherein the at least one computer is capable of
2 storing, modifying, outputting, and retrieving information in communication with
3 the at least one input device and at least one output device; and software installed
4 and capable of running on the at least one computer for automatically generating a
5 hierarchical component categorization based upon the user inputted information
6 and outputting a viewable diagram of that categorization and for automatically
7 generating a document for filing as a patent application, including specification
8 and claims, based upon the user inputted information and additional text-based
9 detailed information that is organized consistent with the diagram; wherein the
10 hierarchical component categorization includes at least one key component and at
11 least one subcomponent related thereto; and

12 the at least one user viewing the diagram and text-based information in a
13 tangible medium.

14 12. The method according to claim 11, further including the step of:

15 at least one user entering diagram verbage by drafting the text-based detailed
16 description or verbage of the specification section of the application for each
17 component of the diagram.

18 13. The method according to claim 11, further including the step of:

19 at least one user inputting additional components selected from the group
20 consisting of key components, subcomponents, and sub-subcomponents.

21 14. The method according to claim 11, further including the steps of:

22 modifying any previously inputted components within the diagram; and

the system automatically updating the diagram and relational information to those modified components.

15. The method according to claim 11, further including the step of automatically generating a patent application based upon the inputted information and the hierarchical diagram, including specification and claims.